



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE

1151 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

November 25, 2003

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TO: HONORABLE CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBERS
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FROM: ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY COMMITTEE (ESRC)

William Steiner, Director, USGS - Biological Resources Division, UH
Gina Schultz, USFWS - Pacific Islands Ecoregion, Honolulu
Peter T. Young, Chair, Dept. of Land and Natural Resources
John Harrison, Executive Director, Environmental Center, Univ. of Hawaii
Jobriath Rohrer, Appointed Member, U.S. Army Ecosystem Program, Oahu, HI
Karen Poiani, Appointed Member, The Nature Conservancy, Honolulu
Jim Jacobi, USGS - BRD, Hawaii Nat. Park, HI (BRD Representative)
Jeff Newman, USFWS - Pacific Islands Ecoregion (FWS Representative)
Paul Conry, Wildlife Program Manager, DOFAW (DLNR Representative)

SUBJECT: ESRC review of the draft Safe Harbor Agreement for the Reintroduction of the Nene to Piiholo Ranch, Maui and accompanying Incidental Take License.

The ESRC has been requested to review the "Safe Harbor Agreement for the Reintroduction of the Nene to Piiholo Ranch, Maui" and its accompanying Incidental Take License in anticipation of their release for public review. The ESRC agrees with the purpose and intent of the draft agreement and believes that the proposed actions to establish a new population of nene on the Island of Maui will benefit the species. The ESRC believes that implementation of the agreement will provide a net conservation benefit for the environment and species and expects that the agreement will facilitate the establishment of a breeding population of nene on the enrolled lands which now support no nene. The ESRC did not identify any major issues of concern with the management activities outlined in the agreement or with the Incidental Take License and anticipates their progression through the public review process.

Prepared and submitted by:

WILLIAM G. STANDLEY
Conservation Initiatives Coordinator
Division of Forestry and Wildlife